(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what steps have been taken/are proposed to be taken for creating employment opportunities in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b) No specific study has been conducted to ascertain the impact of economic reforms on the unemployment problem in the country. However, the estimate of the rate of growth of employment during the three year period 1992—95 is observed to be higher than that during the previous seven year period (1985—92);

(c) and (d) The National Sample Survey Organisation collected data on employment through surveys conducted with a thin sample (containing smaller number of households than in a comprehensive survey) in the course of its 47th (July—Dec. 91); 48th (Jan—Dec. 92) rounds and through a comprehensive survey in the 50th round (July 93—June 1994). The rates of employment and unemployment (with respect to population) as per the 47th and 48th Rounds for which results have become available are as follows:

Number of persons employed and unemployed per 1000 persons — All India

Status/Category	47th Round		48th Round	
	Employed	Unemployed	Employed	Unemployed
Usual Principal Status				
Rural Male	538	10	541	9
Rural Female	244	3	250	3
Urban Male	511	24	502	24
Urban Female	120	7	125	9
Current Weekly Status				
Rural Male	534	12	536	12
Rural Female	238	3	244	3
Urban Male	509	26	501	24
Urban Female	117	7	122	8

(e) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan strategy lays stress on growth of employment intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities through geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural growth, development of agro-based and allied activities, promotion of the non-farm sector in rural areas and small and decentralised manufacturing sector, expansion of programmes of construction of infrastructure and residential accommodation and promotion of growth of services and informal sector activities, besides streamlining the various special employment schemes.

Shortage of Kerosene in Maharashtra

77. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a report of severe shortage of kerosene

supplies to the consumers in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) what has been the total allocation to the State of Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Maharashtra has demanded additional kerosene quota during the festival month of August to October, if so, what is the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The allocation of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years is as under:

('000 MTs.)

1992-93	. . . .	1482.36
1993-94	. . . .	1497.32
1994-95	. . . .	1511.76

(c) No such specific request has been received from the Government of Maharashtra.

Consumer Protection Act to cover Universities

78. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chancellor of University of Delhi has suggested that the Consumer Protection Act should cover Universities also;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to bring Universities under the purview of the said Act; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Act applies to all services which are rendered for a consideration whether by Government, public sector, cooperative, joint or private sectors. The Act, however, does not apply to the services which are rendered free of charge or under a contract of personal service.

T.B. and Cancer among the Beedi Workers in Gujarat

79. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of incidents of T.B. and Cancer among the Beedi Workers in Gujarat State and how does it compare with all India average of percentage of incidence of such diseases; and

(b) how many hospitals have been opened for the Beedi Workers in the State with the details of their places and capacity?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No specific information is reported to be available on the incidence of T.B. and Cancer among Beedi Workers in Gujarat.

(b) No hospital has so far been set up for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. However, there are 6 dispensaries for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. A statement showing the places at which Beedi Workers dispensaries have been set up in Gujarat is given below.

Statement

BHILWARA REGION
STATE — GUJARAT

1. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Patan Distt. Patan.
2. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Vadnagar Distt. Mehansana.
3. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Sarsa Distt. Kheda.
4. Static Dispensary, Ahmedabad Distt. Ahmedabad.
5. Static Dispensary, Borsad Distt. Kaira.